

VETERANS' VOICES

A Virtual Literary Magazine by Residents of the New Hampshire Veterans Home
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The Kindest Word of All

3/17/06

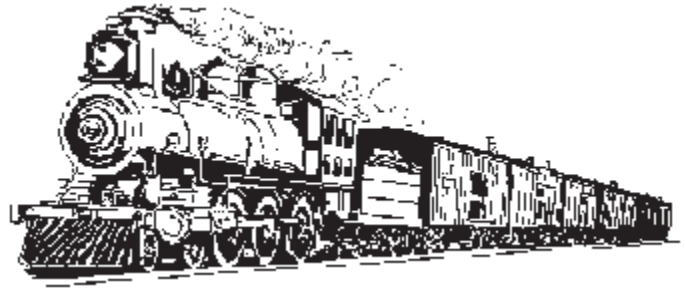
To many, it's just a simple little word.
To others, it's the sweetest sound they have ever heard.
Sadly, some vow never to utter this word.
Pride and stubbornness make them hold back.
Luckily, many others use this word quite often.
I'm not exaggerating, just stating a fact.
Pain and tears can be washed away, if only we would use this word today.
It's not just the word, but the meaning too.
Because without remorse, we would continue feeling blue.
Spoken with true sincerity makes us feel brand new.
When we use this word, God is proud of us, this is true.
So the next time you hurt someone's feelings, and make them feel blue,
 or break a heart that was strong and true,
 or exhibit rude, jealous, behavior, or even gossip too,
 just stop and think what God would want you to do.
By now I'm sure you have figured out this powerful eleven
letter word, yes
 that's right, the important word that heals many
 broken hearts is, "**forgiveness**".
Like everyone, I've **forgiven** many from time-to-time.
And been **forgiven** if I've ever hurt anyone's feelings.
Because making someone sad is the last thing on my mind.
We should all respect other people and especially be kind.
Although we have all probably spoken many impressive
words,
I'm sure we all agree that "**forgiveness**" is the kindest word
we have ever
 heard.



David Clark

CHARLIE SAFFORD'S

ANCESTORS



Many of my ancestors were railroad men.

I learned through genealogy, they go way back when.

Great-grandfather Bryant invented a switch.

And he lived in Bryantville, and he was not rich.

Grandfather Tilton was a yard master.

The Boston railroad yards was he there that master.

The name of Tilton, his name, also has a history.

Long ago, Charles Tilton, founded that town, no mystery.

In my room is a picture of a train engine

that Grandpa Tilton, purchased and named.

Lo and behold, it's name, the Chas. Richmond.

My middle name, I am Safford, Charles Richmond.

That name Richmond has been traced to 1358.

For that, I am glad, for that name of mine,

And my hope is that one of mine will use the name,

to prolong Richmond through the history of names.

FATHER'S DAY ON THE RIVER

"Come on Dad", the twins said. "We are going to take you fishing on the river. With the boat in tow, we headed for Westmoreland. There, we put the boat in the river, but unknown to me, this was a back water and we had to go under a low bridge. In fact, we had to crouch down to go under. When we got down the river, we did more sightseeing than fishing. First we went down and saw the atomic power plant, then we went up to a place where swallow are in the middle of the river. This is where Carp mate or play. Carp grow to four feet and hook like a small whale. They are black and were sliding all over each other.



Forrest Foley, 6/19/06

St Patrick's Day is on the way,

But to me, it's just another day.

I never was one to wear the green,

To me, it has a bilious sheen,

But on others, it looks keen.



By Forrest Foley

March 13, 2006

*Here I sit, frazzled and befuddled,
Because my brain is all mixed and muddled.*

*Soon though, all will be clean,
And the sharpness needed I will glean.*

*I wonder if in this I am alone,
Or am I the one and only clone!*

*This cannot be, far, as an island no man is,
Even if he is a wonder and a whiz.*

By Charlie Safford, March 6, 2006



Veterans Helping Veterans

Veterans Helping Veterans is a program which connects residents of the New Hampshire Veterans Home (NHVH) with service people all over the world. NHVH residents and staff write letters and send packages to our troops overseas. Here is an example of one of the letters.



Richard Mumblo, Veteran of the Korean War

March 12, 2007

Dear Friend,

My name is Richard Mumblo. Currently, I am living at the New Hampshire Veterans Home. I am a Veteran of the Korean War. I served in the Navy, and I have good things to say about my service.

I have been all over the world. I was aboard a ship with a captain that loved to travel. I saw many beautiful places, such as France, Italy, Spain, England and Ireland. The name of my ship was Block Island. Captain James Flatly was, without a doubt, the greatest man I have ever served with. He allowed us many opportunities, especially for entertainment. The food was the best there ever was. The Captain insisted we had good food. He did wonders for us. One day, on the way to breakfast, he stopped the cooks and said, "I want to know why we don't have two different meats for breakfast!." He called a meeting and made it so we had two meats at breakfast.

Right now, I am in a writing group. We are writing a play, and we hope that it will be performed by kids in a school close by. We are also writing letters to people like you, who are currently serving our country.

I would like to know what more I can do for you to make the time you have overseas better. Just let me know if you need anything. I would like to hear how you are doing. My address is:

Richard Mumblo
139 Winter St.
Tilton, NH 03276

Thank you for all that you are doing.

LUNCH WITH THE LADIES

BY: RICHARD MUMBLO

FEBRUARY 27, 2006



LUNCH WITH THE GIRLS EVERY WEDNESDAY.

TWO MARINES AND ONE NAVY PERSON,

WE TELL LOTS OF STORIES ABOUT LIFE, ABOUT WORK.

LISTEN TO STORIES AT MY DISCERN,

ALWAYS KEEP THEM LAUGHING, AND ENTERTAINING FOR ALL.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO EACH LUNCH FOR MORE GOOD TIMES.

Once I saw a little bird go hop, hop, hop,
I said to the bird stop, stop, stop
He shook his tail at me and far away he flew.

By: Larry Seger



Who is the Easter Bunny?

By: Vernon Vermouth

The Easter Bunny she didn't see...

It was better than a pig that goes wee
wee wee!

It was a great day, all of our children
missed it,

They were not able to come and visit.

Hundreds of kids were running
around,

Oh boy, if you could hear that sound!

The bunny looked white and cuddly,

It ran around and got all muddily!



Family Poem

By: Vernon Vermouth

A family with four boys

In our household, there was no shortage of toys.

Sometimes some of those toys were cars

One of which Michael drove onto the fence, it looked as if it were headed for Mars.

We always had our ups and downs,

Success was found through smiles and frowns.

Terry, Michael, Peter and Tom,

They all had such a wonderful mom.

She's petite and pretty,

She's also very witty.

Luckily, mom always had help from dad,

For his support, she was very glad.

We always had a cat in our house,

We brought him there to catch a mouse.



We are now in the condo on Newfound Lake,

We are happy there with no earthquakes.